Case report: Elbow lameness in a young Golden Retriever

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Introduction:

Elbow OCD is a frequently diagnosed condition in the Golden Retriever. This case report discusses an atypical evolution of elbow OCD after arthroscopic treatment.

History:

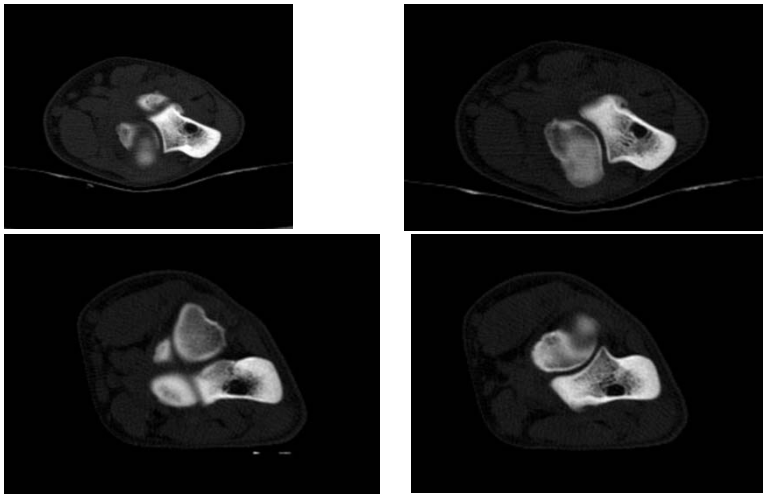
A 5 month old male Golden Retriever was presented with left front limb lameness. The complaints were going on for 1.5 months. The local veterinarian started with NSAID treatment, without improvement.
Clinical examination demonstrated moderate left front limb lameness, moderate muscle atrophy and mild to moderate distention of both elbows. The elbows had a mildly limited range of motion. A moderate pain reaction was noticed when extending both elbows.

Radiographic examination:

Both elbows were examined. Both elbows were suspected for ocd.

Computed Tomography:

Computed tomography (CT) showed a bilateral elbow OCD lesion without indications for a fragmented coronoid process (FCP).



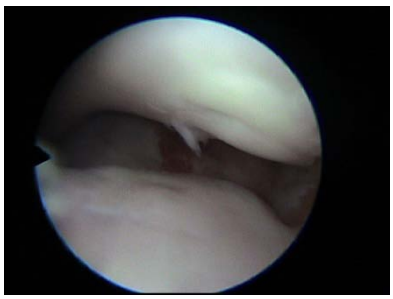
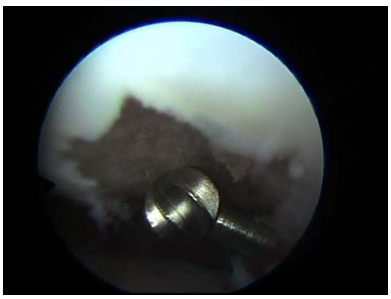
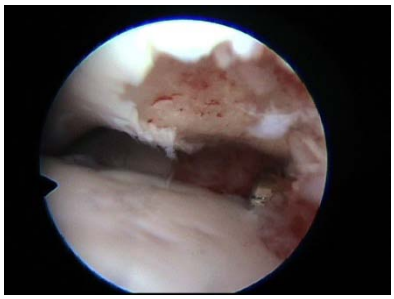
Above: left elbow: OCD lesion on the medial humeral condyle(left image), normal medial coronoid process (right image).

Below: right elbow: sclerotic region on the medial humeral condyle (left image), normal medial coronoid process (right image).

Arthroscopy:

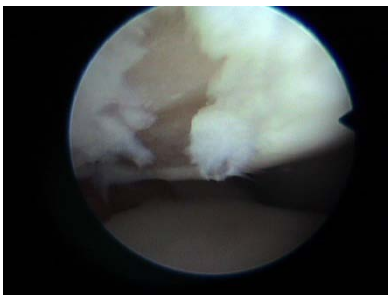
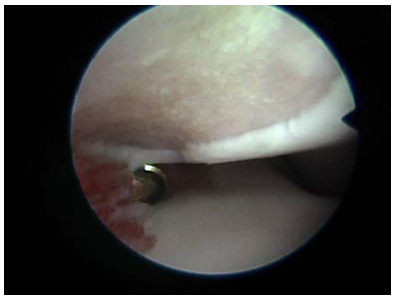
Both elbows looked similar: A moderate degree of synovitis was present. The medial coronoid process had a normal aspect. In general the cartilage was white and smooth, except for the OCD lesion on the medial humeral condyle. Treatment existed in removal of this OCD flap.

Left elbow

OCD lesion removal with a bor end result

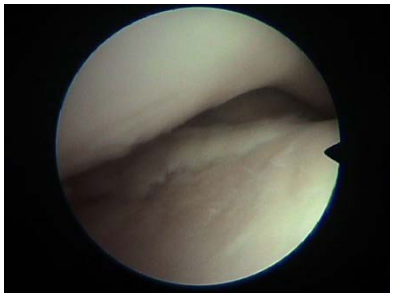
Right elbow

Three months after arthroscopic treatment, the dog had not improved. At this point a second arthroscopy was performed (fig 6).

Second arthroscopy

Both left and right the medial coronoid process was fragmented. FCP was bilaterally treated.




Left elbow Right elbow

Conclusion:

Some lesions lesions are not present or visible in an early stage of the disease. Second look arthroscopy can be of great help in cases with continuous lameness after treatment.

References:

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